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Expression of Interest for Partnership

AAWAZ II: INCLUSION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND REDUCING EXPLOITATION PROGRAMME

OVERVIEW

AAWAZ II is a DFID funded programme in Pakistan which aims to achieve these objectives by creating *a more protective and enabling environment for girls, boys, women, youth, religious minorities, the differently abled and those at risk of exclusion and exploitation*. The programme aims to achieve this vision by working both with communities and state institutions to support increased voice, choice and control for women, girls, boys, youth, religious minorities and marginalised groups by supporting/strengthening systems and community responses that provide protection from exploitation and prevent discrimination and intolerance at all levels.

The programme will respond to the multi-dimensional and interconnected ways in which exploitation, intolerance and exclusion are perpetuated. The intervention will work on the range of factors which go together to create an enabling and protective environment for vulnerable or excluded groups in KP and Punjab provinces.

The programme approaches these issues from both the supply side (government/institutions) and demand side (individual/community). The “demand side” programme is led by British Council and consortium partners; who will work with civil society organisations to implement the community-based interventions in 45 selected districts of the two provinces. The proposed programme model focuses on bringing onboard local CSOs at district level to deliver programme interventions with local communities in KP and Punjab under the supervision of British Council.

AAWAZ II programme is the successor initiative to AAWAZ I (a voice and accountability programme run between 2012-2018, also funded by DFID) that reached over 7 million poor and marginalised people across 45 districts of KP and Punjab.

British Council

The British Council is the UK's foremost cultural relations organization dedicated to building trust and understanding between people from all cultures. We operate in over 110 countries and Pakistan is one of the British Council's highest priorities focusing on education, skills for employability, English, creativity and active citizenship.

AAWAZ II focus

British Council is leading on the delivery of Pillar 2: Community Dialogue, Awareness and Voice and Pillar 3: Conflict Pre-emption. As part of the delivery of these pillars, AAWAZ II will support the capacity building of 450 Aagahi Centers across 45 selected districts in KP and Punjab to provide a safe space for marginalised members of the community to demand improvements to state services, getting information on their rights and preventing community conflict by encouraging community members to address potential triggers of conflict and to promote tolerance particularly towards religious minorities. The premise of the programme is that marginalised groups lack access to services, a voice in local decision making, an awareness of their rights leading to vulnerability to exclusion and exploitation and that cultural/social norms sustain and perpetuate intolerance particularly towards religious minorities.

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Through a chain of community fora from village forums to Aagahi Centres at union/neighbourhood council level and district and provincial forums, the programme seeks to raise awareness of rights, generate demand, facilitate access to state services which promote the rights of vulnerable people, identify and address related social issues. The programme will also organise communities to pre-empt potential conflict triggers through dialogue, peace initiatives and collective action with young change agents from vulnerable groups at the forefront of social mobilisation and demand based advocacy and action.

Expression of Interest for Downstream Partners under AAWAZ II

British Council will implement AAWAZ II in partnership with a range of strategic, provincial and downstream partners which may include CSOs/NGOs. This call for EOI is for identification of downstream partners only.

AAWAZ II aims to work in selected 45 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab, however, this EOI seeks applications from CSOs/NGOs/CBOs to support the programme implementation across the two provinces. Applicants are advised to propose districts of their existing interventions, however, finalization of districts for selected downstream partners will be agreed with them at the contract signing stage.

The downstream partners are expected to host and manage an agreed number of Aagahi Centers as safe spaces for communities in their respective districts with a core methodology led by AAWAZ II Programme Management Unit (PMU) for delivering activities in local communities to achieve the programme results. The Aagahi Centres will be staffed with a small team to facilitate community outreach, access to knowledge, awareness and information on social services. Downstream partners will be responsible for targeting and mobilising local communities particularly marginalised groups who are vulnerable to forms of exploitation & discrimination (women, girls, youth, religious minorities, persons with disabilities, transgenders). The downstream partners will also be responsible for setting up Village and District Forums. The downstream partners will ensure that Aagahi Centers and forums work together to build capacity and leadership particularly of young women and men from diverse vulnerable groups to voice demand for change, participate in decision making, promote citizen-state interaction, support collective action to promote inclusion and social cohesion and show ability to find solutions and pre-empt community-based conflicts.

Offer for Civil Society Organisations

AAWAZ II: Inclusion, accountability and reducing exploitation programme offers opportunities for civil society organizations to join a large programme implemented in 45 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab and contribute towards a more peaceful, inclusive and tolerant Pakistan. The programme expected outcome is reduced vulnerability to exploitation, reduced discrimination and violence against marginalized communities and reduction in intolerance. The selected downstream partners will be offered:

- Capacity building on addressing social issues as a result of exclusion and exploitation (i.e. child labour/bonded labour, early & forced marriages, community conflict, religious intolerance)
- Capacity building to deliver a gender sensitive, inclusive content with local communities focusing on long term behaviour change
- Organisational development to manage programme delivery, strengthening of organisational systems including finance, compliance, internal control systems, human resource, M&E and reporting

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- Capacity building on safe programming to ensure marginalised / vulnerable groups are protected during programme engagement and safeguarding standards are setup that are integral to programme delivery
- Opportunity to lead AAWAZ II in the district and engage with all key stakeholders including the concerned government departments

Programme Targets

- 450 Aagahi Centers in 45 districts in KP and Punjab (10 Aagahi centers per district, one Aagahi center should cover approx. 10 villages)
- 25000 youth 'change agents' trained in 45 districts
- 2 million women and other vulnerable groups supported to either: apply for CNICs, register as voters, civil documentation, birth registration and other related services.
- Number of marginalised people supported into leadership positions in district fora, local government and any other community initiative
- % increase in awareness in target communities of laws and rights associated with social issues including child marriage laws, labor laws, employment rights.
- Number of meetings between district and village forums and local government officials to raise demands for services.
- % of minority/excluded groups reporting improved tolerance in target communities.
- Number of women/excluded group members participating in local level peace initiatives.

Expected Roles and Responsibilities of Downstream Partner Organisations:

Each Partner will be responsible for the following deliverables in order to develop and implement AAWAZ II interventions in the target district(s):

- **Recruitment:** Recruitment of agreed number of staff for programme delivery and Aagahi Center teams
- **Operational Management of Aagahi Centres:** manage an appropriate allocated number of Aagahi Centres in their respective districts. All centres will implement the same set of activities directed by PMU targeting a minimum allocated number of community beneficiaries as agreed with the PMU
- **Formation of Village and District Forums:** identifying members of village and district forums, manage regular meetings and follow ups
- **Campaigns & Advocacy:** Creating awareness about the AAWAZ II focus areas and launching specific campaigns through the forums and AACs in the targeted districts as agreed with the PMU.
- **Linkages:** Develop linkages for the village and district forums with concerned stakeholders and government departments at the local and district level such as the District Press Club, District Bar Association, Police, Labour Department, Social Welfare and Women Development Department, Local Government and Rural Development Department, Child Protection Unit, District Committees on the Status of Women (DCSW) and District Administration including the Deputy Commissioner, etc.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Monitoring of all activities around the Aagahi Centers, village and district forums and youth change agents to monitor their progress, seek regular updates and develop success stories. Maintain programme database of all interventions (including members, participants and beneficiaries), regular progress reporting to Provincial lead partner and PMU

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(progress reporting will cover programme targets, financial reporting, risks and challenges affecting delivery, success stories/achievements and lessons learnt)

- **Maintain the Programme and financial record** as per the contract and programme policies.

Assessment criteria

- Legal status as registered non-profit CSO
- Proven experience of working with local communities in KP and Punjab
- Proven experience of working with AAWAZ II target groups and audiences including children, youth, women, people with disabilities and religious minorities
- Proven experience of working on social issues resulting in intolerance, exclusion and exploitation of vulnerable groups in communities
- Demonstrate capacity in grant implementation, training, community mobilization, campaigning, awareness raising and advocacy
- Organization's values and principles are clearly established through policies on gender equality, equal opportunity and inclusion, child and adult safeguarding
- Organizational systems are clearly established (financial management, compliance, control checks, human resource management, monitoring and evaluation, procurement)

Application Submission Deadline

Please submit the following as part of your Partnership Proposal by **23rd August 2019 by email to Kashif Hanif** <Kashif.Hanif@britishcouncil.org.pk>

(the size of the email along with the attachments should not exceed limit of 8MB)

Application Submission Process

| Activity | Date |
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| Call for Applications announced | 2 nd August 2019 |
| Registration for Early Market Engagement meetings (for registration confirmation to be sent to Zeeshan Jadoon at Zeeshan.jadoon@britishcouncil.org.pk) (please note only one representative for one organisation will be allowed to attend) | 6 th August 2019 |
| Early Market Engagement Meeting Dates: Peshawar Lahore | 8 th August 2019 9 th August 2019 |
| Deadline to submit questions/ queries pertaining to EOI (Submit questions on the EOI, application form to Kashif.hanif@britishcouncil.org.pk) | 16 th August 2019 |
| Response to questions published on British Council website | 19 th August 2019 |
| Deadline to submit Application with required documents (Submit full application pack to Kashif.hanif@britishcouncil.org.pk) (please note that late applications will not be considered, all submissions to be made on email, applications sent by | 23 rd August 2019 |

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| <i>hand/post/courier will not be considered, individual CVs will not be considered as applications)</i> | |
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Your Email should include all the following attachments:

- 1) Complete Application Form
- 2) Organisational Registration Documents (Scanned copies)
- 3) Governing Documents (Charter/Bylaws/Memorandum & Articles of Association etc.) including Resolution of Governing Body to Apply for Partnership
- 4) Organizational registration certificate with relevant authority
- 5) Audit Reports for the past two years (or one if applicable)
- 6) Certified Bank Statement (*Last six months*)
- 7) Details of Organisation's board of directors and management structure with copies of CNICs'.
- 8) List of existing/current projects/programmes and donors (past five years)
- 9) **Copies of any NOCs obtained by applicant for the districts they currently work in with other programmes/ donors.**
- 10) Brief profiles of programme management staff